THE INTERNATIONAL TEACHING CENTRE
BAHÁ'Í WORLD CENTRE

18 March 2007

Transmitted by email

Mr. Jaya Gopan Ramasamy
Continental Board of Counsellors
in Asia

Dearly loved Co-worker,

With the completion of the successful registration of Bahá'í religious activities in Vietnam, the Universal House of Justice feels it is now possible for you to proceed with the process of appointing Auxiliary Board members for that country; initially, two individuals should suffice but the Board of Counsellors for Asia may then decide to increase the number at a later date. Regarding the first of your three queries in your email letter of 13 March 2007, a copy of which was forwarded to the House of Justice, the two Board members may participate in the upcoming conference in Bangkok, Thailand. It is advised, however, that those appointed endeavour not to attract undue public attention to their activities.

Concerning your question about mobilizing resource persons to assist with the institute process in the priority clusters in Vietnam, the House of Justice advises that the community is to move forward cautiously in a manner that is transparent to the authorities. As to your enquiry about Local Spiritual Assemblies, given that a substantial number should be formed this Riḍván, there is no need for electing Assemblies during the whole year.

In your upcoming meeting with the executive working group and National Spiritual Assembly, kindly review with them the letter of the House of Justice dated 9 March 2007 to the Bahá'ís of the world regarding the goals for the deployment of pioneers in the current Five Year Plan. The Supreme Body is hopeful that in addition to pioneers being directed to clusters on the home front, the Vietnamese community has the capacity to dispatch at least two pioneers for service in the international field during the course of the Plan. In this instance, it may be useful to have the two individuals serve as short-term pioneers in an advanced cluster, where they can learn more about the practical implementation of the two movements at the heart of the Plan.

The thoughts and prayers of the House of Justice, full of hope and great expectations for the future of the Vietnamese Bahá'í community, will be with the friends on the day celebrating the beginning of a new chapter in the development of the Faith in their illustrious country.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

The International Teaching Centre

cc: Board of Counsellors in Asia